

**Claims:**

1. A device (1) for slicing food products in block form with a blade (2), in which the food product block may be raised reversibly with a rocking loading arm (3) from a first into a second position (4, 5), characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) is curved at least in one position.
- 10 2. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that the first position is the loading position (4) and the second is the slicing position (5).
- 15 3. A device according to claim , characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) is oriented substantially horizontally in the loading position.
- 20 4. A device according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) is inclined substantially relative to horizontal in the slicing position (5).
- 25 5. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) is curved in the slicing position (5).
6. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) comprises at least one joint (6).

7. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) comprises guide rolls (7).
- 5 8. A device according to any one of claims 1-6, characterised in that the rocking loading arm comprises one or more preferably flexible conveyor belts.
- 10 9. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the rocking loading arm (3) comprises a limit stop (8) at one end for the food product block.
- 15 10. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that a plurality of food product blocks may be sliced in parallel.
- 20 11. A device according to claim 10, characterised in that the food product blocks are each guided in a product track, these being arranged in parallel on the rocking loading arm.
12. A device according to claim 10 or claim 11, characterised in that lateral guide elements are arranged between the product tracks.
- 25 13. A method of slicing at least one food product block, wherein the food product block is transferred from a loading into a slicing position prior to slicing using a rocking loading arm, characterised in that the shape
- 30

- 10 -

of the rocking loading arm is modified on transfer from one position to the other.

14. A method according to claim 10, characterised in that  
5 the rocking loading arm is curved perpendicularly to the conveying direction of the food product blocks.

15. A method according to claim 10 or claim 11,  
10 characterised in that the food product block is bent on transfer of the rocking loading arm.